

MANAGEMENT AREA #7

BEAR CREEK

Total Acres 18,364

NF Acres 15,781

The Bear Creek Management Area is immediately south of the Snow Mountain Wilderness and west of the Lake/Colusa County line, and it is divided into three non-contiguous parcels. The southeast portion lies between Horse Mountain and Horse Glade. The southwest portion lies between French Ridge and Rabbit Glade Spring. The northern and largest parcel lies between the Snow Mountain Wilderness boundary south to Crabtree Hot Springs. The management area lies entirely within Lake County.

This management area lies within the Lake Pillsbury watershed (Rice Fork of the Eel River drainage). The topography is generally moderate to steep with elevations ranging from 2,000 feet in the Rice Fork of the Eel River to over 6,100 feet at Goat Mountain Lookout. Soils of the area are moderately to highly erodible, with instances of instability along most of the drainages. The vegetation consists of large tracts of brush and knobcone pine, glades, oaks, and meadows. Small patches of mixed conifers can be found particularly on north facing slopes. The area contains 959 acres of suitable timberland.

This area provides valuable habitat for a variety of wildlife due to the combination of glades, oaks, meadows, and water. It includes habitat for elk, foraging habitat for bald eagle, key summer and winter range for deer, and potential habitat for wild turkey. The southern portion of this management area contains habitat for the northern spotted owl and goshawk. The Rice Fork and several of its tributaries have excellent populations of resident rainbow trout. The access is difficult and the fishing pressure is generally very light. Rainbow trout from Lake Pillsbury enter the area to spawn. Non-native Ptychocheilus grandis have entered the area and pose a threat to the native fishery.

The sensitive plant species Epilobium nivium and Hesperolinon drymarioides occur in this area. Other special interest species include Asclepias solanoana and Hesperolinon adenophyllum which actually grow here, and Astragalus clevelandii for which potential habitat exists. This area contains some of the Forest's best sites for native perennial grasses.

Though fire occurrence is generally low, the 1987 Fouts fire burned north of road 17N16 in the North Glade/Potato Hill area. Fire intensity varied greatly. Fire rehabilitation treatments included grass seeding in brush areas and streamside zones, salvage logging in timbered areas, and tree planting in understocked areas.

Recreational uses of the area include hunting, fishing, hiking, motorcycle riding, and camping. Centers of use include Bear Creek Campground (on the border between MA 7 and MA 21) and Crabtree Hot Springs, an undeveloped hot springs. Bear Creek is a major entry route into Snow Mountain Wilderness from the south. The OHV Corridor from the Middle Creek staging area to Fouts Springs also passes through this area.

Small enclaves of commercial timber surrounded by brush and areas of instability are not accessed by the existing transportation system. Logging activity in this area has been intermittent and light due to low volumes and poor economic feasibility. The northern portion of this management area includes an active grazing allotment. A grazing allotment is also located in the southern portion of this area, however, it is vacant due to low water and forage availability. Conflicts between protection of glades and riparian areas and concentrated livestock grazing has been a continuing management concern in the northern portion of this management area, particularly in the Big Springs area.

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Water from this area drains into Lake Pillsbury. Beneficial uses of water from the Lake include power generation, irrigation, anadromous fisheries, and domestic water. Clays originating from this area may be the cause of turbidity in Lake Pillsbury.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis	2,667
Chaparral Management	4,140
Minimal Management	7,915
Late Successional Reserve *	100
Timber Modified	959

* Estimated Unmapped LSR

Management Direction

Where applicable to Forest Service lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

Emphasize wildlife habitat improvement from Bear Creek northward. Manage OHV development in this area consistent with wildlife habitat management objectives.

Do not construct OHV trails within ¼ mile of key fawning areas, and re-route existing trails outside of the key fawning areas.

Manage livestock use in the northern portion of this management area to protect glades and riparian areas from excessive grazing pressure. Reduce livestock numbers or close these areas to livestock grazing if other management measures which may prove effective in maintaining glade values and meeting aquatic conservation strategy objectives cannot be identified and implemented.

Identify native perennial grasslands suitable for management as sources of native seed. Maintain the purity of the identified seed sources.

Do not permit livestock grazing in the southern portion of the management area.

Maintain the posting of the Snow Mountain Wilderness boundaries at the major entry points.

Analyze area between 18N01 and Salt Creek for loop and lateral OHV trail development.

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Evaluate suitability of isolated areas of commercial timber for management for sustained yields. Make appropriate adjustments to the suitable landbase based on the results of this evaluation

Continue to pursue acquisition of private lands adjacent to Snow Mountain Wilderness that contain wetlands and riparian areas.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat Critical habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Bald Eagle	Potential foraging habitat
Deer	Portions of Snow Mountain and Goat Rock key summer ranges Portions of Hale Ridge, Middle Creek, and Potato Hill key winter ranges

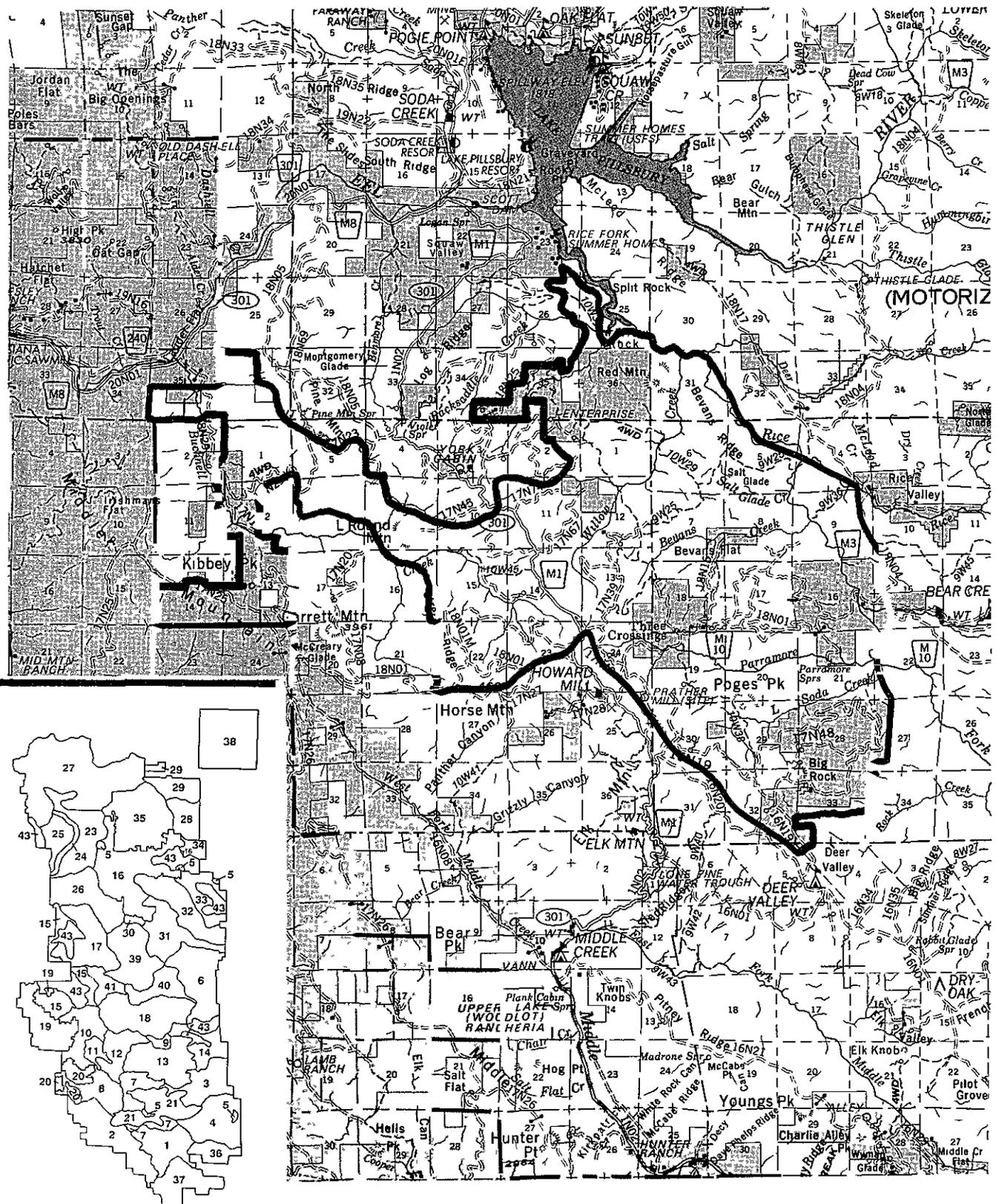
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	106
Chaparral	331
Mixed Conifer	197

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type

MANAGEMENT AREA #8

Round Mountain



MANAGEMENT AREA #8

ROUND MOUNTAIN

Total Acres 23,302
NF Acres 17,076

The Round Mountain Management Area extends south from York Cabin and Pine Mountain, west to the Forest boundary, and east to the Rice Fork of the Eel River. The southern boundary extends from Horse Mountain past Howard Mill Station to Deer Valley Campground. The area lies within Lake County except for a small part in Mendocino County.

The terrain varies from relatively flat and gently sloping terrain to rough, rocky canyons sharply dissected by numerous drainages. Elevations range from 1,800 feet to almost 4,300 feet. The eastern portion of the area is drained by numerous creeks into the Rice Fork and flow into Lake Pillsbury. The western portion of the area drains into Bucknell Creek, which flows into the Eel River below Lake Pillsbury. Part of the flow in the Eel River is diverted into the Russian River at Van Arsdale. Soils are generally good for timber production, are of moderate to high erodibility, and are particularly unstable along steep drainages. The southern portion of the management area contains many conifer plantations established since the Round Fire. Portions of the area support chaparral species. Some older, mature stands of trees exist primarily in those portions of the area which are isolated, steep, or less-accessible. Hardwoods are a significant component of all conifer types in this area. The area contains 2,979 acres of suitable timberland.

This management area contains potential foraging habitat for bald eagle and osprey and key winter range for deer. This area also contains habitat for the northern spotted owl and goshawk. Bucknell Creek provides habitat for anadromous fish. The Rice Fork and several of its tributaries have excellent populations of resident rainbow trout. The access is difficult and the fishing pressure is generally very light. Rainbow trout from Lake Pillsbury enter the area to spawn. Non-native Ptychocheilus grandis have entered the area and pose a threat to the native fishery.

No sensitive plants are known to occur within this area, but the area does contain conditions favorable for occurrence of Hesperolinon drymarioides and Eriastrum brandegeae. Potential habitat exists for Astragalus clevelandii, and habitat exists for Hesperolinon adenophyllum, a special interest species.

The area has only had one major fire in the last 25 years, the Round Fire in 1966 (26,000 ac); but numerous small fires have occurred. Approximately 7,000 acres of the Round Fire have been reforested, but little has been accomplished thus far to protect these plantations from wildfire.

Recreation use is primarily motorcycle riding, deer hunting, hiking and stream fishing.

The majority of the area is currently grazed.

All runoff from this management area flows either directly into the Eel River, or into Lake Pillsbury and then into the Eel River. Downstream uses include irrigation, power generation, and municipal use.

Access to National Forest lands in the western portion of the area is limited due to lack of rights-of-way.

MANAGEMENT AREA #8
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis	773
Chaparral Management	3,464
Minimal Management	9,860
Timber Modified	2,979

Management Direction

Manage the OHV system and system development to complement the management of LSRs RC312 and RC313 and management of the Lake Pillsbury Management Area.

Complete an inventory of non-system roads and trails. Evaluate the need and suitability of these roads and trails. Either rehabilitate them, and add them to the system, close them, or obliterate them. Plan and construct any needed additions to the motorcycle trail system in the southern portion of the area. Identify opportunities to minimize conflicts between OHV use and private landowners, and incorporate those opportunities into the Forest OHV Plan.

Where applicable to Forest Service lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

Acquire administrative rights-of-way to western portions of the management area.

Emphasize fuels treatment within and adjacent to plantations as a means to provide protection for plantations from wildfire.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat Critical habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Deer	Portions of Potato Hill and Middle Creek key winter ranges
Bald Eagle	Foraging habitat

MANAGEMENT AREA #8

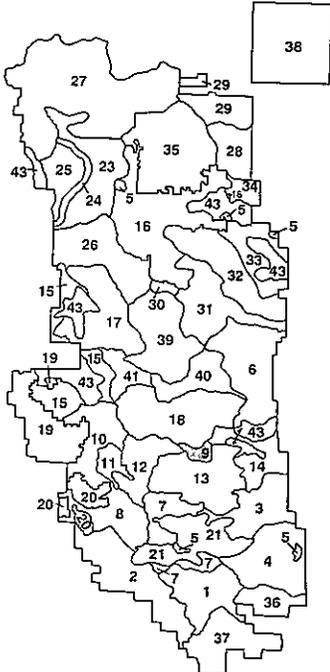
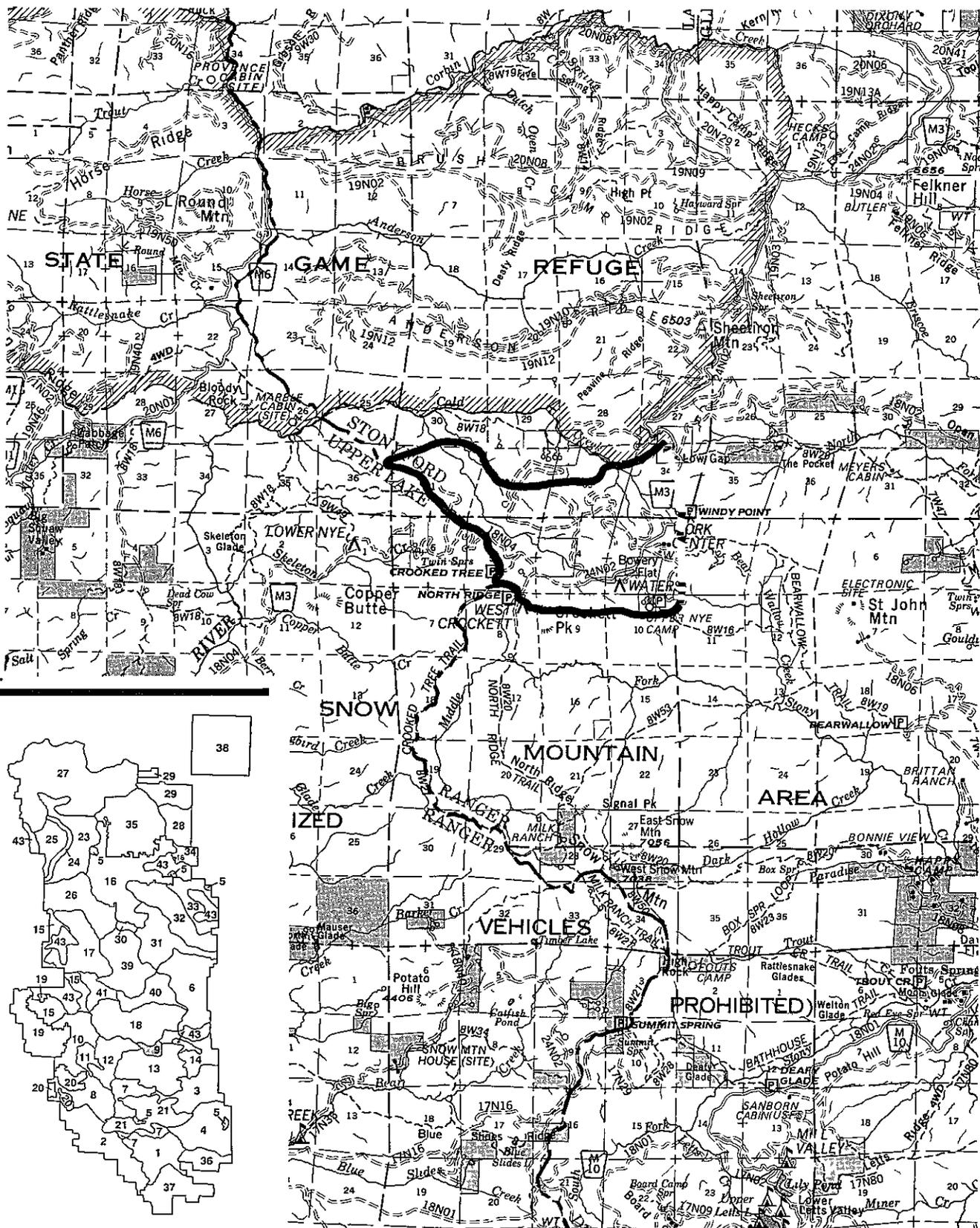
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	46
Chaparral	277
Mixed Conifer	504

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA #9

Bowery



MANAGEMENT AREA #9

BOWERY

Total Acres 4,153
NF Acres 4,153

This management area's northern boundary follows Cold Creek, while its eastern boundary follows Forest Road M3 and the edge of Snow Mountain Wilderness. This area's southern boundary is also defined by Snow Mountain Wilderness, and its western edge follows a ridge separating Stonyford and Upper Lake districts.

Elevations range from 2200 feet to 6172 feet. Vegetation is predominantly mixed conifer species. Some oak stands exist, and chaparral occupies sites with shallow soils of poor productivity. Landslides are common in disturbed areas along drainages. Erosion potential ranges from severe in some areas, to moderate in others. The most severe erosion occurs in the Crockett Camp and Bowery Flat areas. The area contains 1,096 acres of suitable timberland.

The Bowery Management Area contains habitat for northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk. This area also provides habitat for deer, fisher, and bear. The small creek in the Bowery Flat area contains a thriving population of generally small trout.

No sensitive plants are known to occur in this area. However, habitat conditions are favorable for Epilobium nivium.

This area poses moderate fire hazards. Most of the timbered areas have light or moderate fuel loadings of logging slash.

Approximately 65% of all forested lands are accessed by the current transportation system. Four dispersed camping areas are located within this area, and hunting pressure is moderate. Upper Nye Camp, Low Gap, and Crockett Camp provide access to Snow Mountain Wilderness.

Cold Creek provides water to the Eel River, which provides part of the total runoff into Lake Pillsbury. Water from this area is used for power generation, irrigation, and domestic purposes.

MANAGEMENT AREA #9
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis	112
Chaparral Management	362
Minimal Management	2,583
Timber Modified	1,096

Management Direction

Where applicable to Forest Service lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

Analyze the need for wilderness trailhead facilities at Low Gap, Upper Nye Camp, and Crockett Camp.

Continue treating logging slash to reduce fire hazards.

Manage vegetation to improve forage for deer within key deer range.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Marten/Fisher	Dispersal habitat
Deer	Portion of Sheeiron key summer range

MANAGEMENT AREA #9

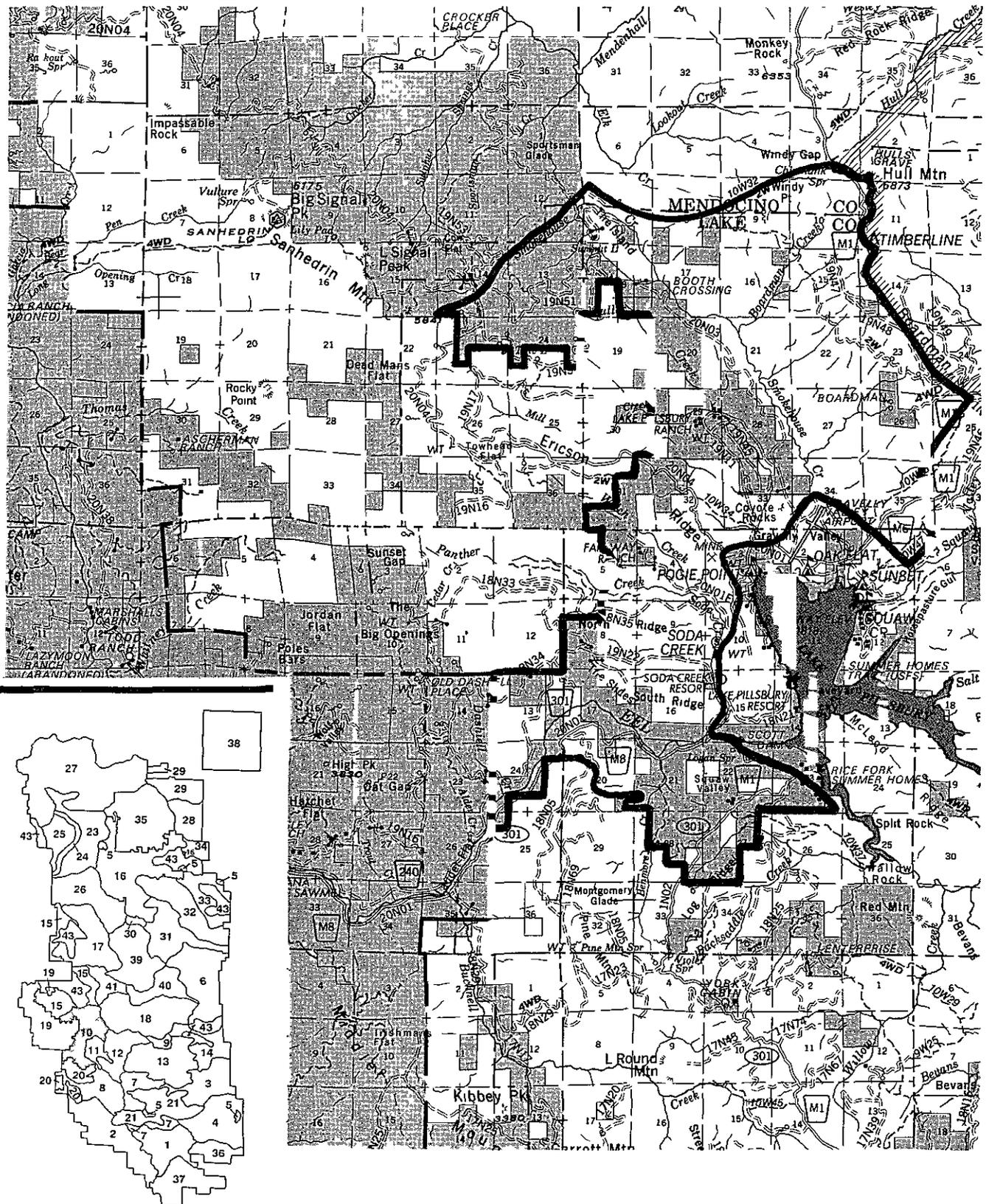
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	8
Chaparral	29
Mixed Conifer	170

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA #10

Ericson Ridge



MANAGEMENT AREA #10

ERICSON RIDGE

Total Acres 23,677
NF Acres 14,755

The Ericson Ridge Management Area extends westward from Soda Creek and Boardman Ridge to the Island, the Faraway Ranch, and finally the Forest boundary in the vicinity of the Eel River. The southern boundary is formed by Late Successional Reserve RC312. This management area is in Lake County with a small portion in Mendocino County around Windy Pt.

The topography within the area ranges from moderately steep slopes to very steep slopes along drainages. Elevations range from 1,700 feet to 5,500 feet. Ericson Ridge divides the area into two subwatersheds. The northern portion of the area includes Smokehouse Creek which drains into Lake Pillsbury. The southern portion of the area drains into Soda Creek and the Eel River below Lake Pillsbury. This management area contains many unstable areas and soils that are moderately to highly erodible. Vegetation consists primarily of mixed conifers, with Douglas fir as the predominant species and ponderosa and sugar pine as secondary species. Less developed soils and drier sites support mostly hardwoods and brush. The area contains 1,805 acres of suitable timberland.

This management area contains key summer and key winter range for deer and suitable habitat for elk. The area contains habitat for the northern spotted owl. The Eel River is utilized by both bald eagle and osprey as part of their feeding and nesting territories. Panther, Benmore, and Soda creeks support winter-run steelhead, chinook, and resident trout, and Mill Creek supports resident trout. Fish passage and riparian vegetation are limited in lower Soda Creek.

Populations of the sensitive plant species Epilobium nivium and Raillardella scabrida are known to exist within this area, along with potential habitat for Lupinus antoninus.

The 1987 Mendenhall fire burned in the northern portion of this management area. The Island area was heavily burned. Salvage logging and reforestation has been completed. Native vegetation will compete with conifer seedlings, and release will be necessary on most lands to insure plantation survival. Regrowth of native vegetation could provide sufficient fuel to allow future wildfires to sweep through the plantations.

The Ericson Ridge Management Area receives light to moderate recreational use by deer hunters, motorcycle riders, and hikers. Good access from the adjacent high use areas around Lake Pillsbury influences recreation use in this area.

Lake Pillsbury Ranch is a private subdivision near Lake Pillsbury. Use is primarily for recreational residences, but year-long occupancy is now at approximately ten families. Urban interface and its associated management impacts are increasing as more houses are built.

No grazing currently takes place in this management area as previous livestock grazing led to problems with cattle drifting to undesirable locations. Though mining has occurred historically, no operations are currently active. Water from this area is used for power generation, irrigation, and domestic use.

MANAGEMENT AREA #10
MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis	2,195
Chaparral Management	2,128
Minimal Management	8,527
Late Successional Reserve •	100
Timber Modified	1,805

* Estimated Unmapped LSR

Management Direction

Where applicable to Forest Service lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

Schedule OHV events to avoid spring reproduction periods and summer recovery and growth period of deer within the Hull Mountain key summer range.

Explore ways to improve fish passage and riparian habitat in lower Soda Creek.

Inventory non-system OHV trails and roads Evaluate the suitability of the roads and trails, and obliterate or close those that are causing resource damage. Manage remaining OHV trails to support the direction for management of the Lake Pillsbury Management Area (#11). Coordinate trail development and management with the existing staging area in Management Area #11.

Work with Lake Pillsbury Property Owners Association and private land developers to reduce urban interface conflicts.

Manage oaks and understory brows species to increase preferred deer browse in key summer range.

Emphasize fuels treatment within and adjacent to plantations as a means to provide protection for plantations from wildfire.

Continue to deny grazing permits.

MANAGEMENT AREA #10

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Bald Eagle	Foraging habitat
Tule Elk	Fall/Winter habitat
Deer	Portions of Gravelly Valley key winter range and Hull Mountain key summer range
Winter-run Steelhead	Spawning and rearing habitat
Chinook	Spawning and rearing habitat

Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	141
Chaparral	170
Mixed Conifer	373

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type

MANAGEMENT AREA #11

LAKE PILLSBURY

Total Acres 6,553
NF Acres 5,217

This management area comprises lands around and adjacent to Lake Pillsbury, within Lake County. This area's major geographic feature is Lake Pillsbury which is 2,350 acres at dam level.

Terrain is generally flat with some foothills. Elevations range from 1,818 feet to 2,400 feet. Lake Pillsbury is fed by the Eel River and the Rice Fork of the Eel River, as well as Fuller, Smokehouse, and Squaw Creeks. Soils are of moderate erodibility, some having high clay contents. Vegetation consists mainly of black oak, scrub oak, and brush, with stands of mixed conifers on north and west aspects. The area contains 228 acres of suitable timberland.

Lake Pillsbury is formed by Scott Dam, which is maintained by Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) authorized by a 50-year license issued thru the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Water is released into the Eel River, and a portion of that release is then diverted at Van Arsdale into the Russian River for power generation, irrigation, and domestic use. Most land inundated by the lake is owned by PG&E. Lake County is responsible for management of surface recreation use on the lake.

The Lake Pillsbury area is habitat for bald eagles and ospreys. An active bald eagle nest site is located within the area, and habitat improvement projects for bald eagles are continuing. This area contains habitat for northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk. Re-introduced tule elk use the northern portion of the area as winter range. Riparian planting projects and habitat improvement projects for upland game have also been implemented. Lake Pillsbury contains a cold water trout fishery and a steadily improving warm water bass fishery. The State Department of Fish and Game stocks the lake with rainbow trout to supplement natural reproduction.

No sensitive plants are known to occur within this area. Potential habitat exists for and a previously reported population site is on record for Hesperolinon adenophyllum, a special interest species.

Fire occurrence is frequent in this area and is primarily human caused.

Lake Pillsbury Recreation Area receives substantial recreation use. Boating, wind surfing, fishing, camping, and hang gliding are the primary activities. Lake Pillsbury provides the greatest number of fishing days in this Forest. The outlook for quality fishing in this area remains excellent since the bass population will not reach full potential for several years. The area also serves as a base for OHV activities during the fall, winter, and spring months. The Pillsbury Lake area is closed to OHV use from one weekend prior to Memorial Day to one weekend after Labor Day. The Forest Service operates three fee campgrounds and one non-fee campground, for a total of 152 camping units. The Forest Service also administers two boat launch ramps, a summer home tract with 71 lots, and one resort area under a special use permit. This resort provides boat launch facilities, a store, fuel for boats and autos, a campground, and cabins. In addition, PG&E is constructing an additional 20-unit campground and a group campground for Forest Service operation.

Soda Creek Resort, located on private land, provides groceries, fuel, and restaurant services on a seasonal basis. PG&E owns 60 lease lots on the west side of the lake. All access roads to Lake Pillsbury have some low standard unpaved segments, and access is considered to be the main factor limiting current recreation use.

Conflicts between OHV use and other recreation uses are common throughout the year, and actions of recreationists frequently require law enforcement efforts.

MANAGEMENT AREA #11

Lake Pillsbury historically has remained turbid for lengthy periods after storms, however, turbidity was not significant during the 1989-90 and 1990-91 winters. The turbidity passes on to downstream areas and also affects the Russian River because of the diversion at Van Arsdale. Studies indicate the cause of the turbidity may be clay from the shoreline of the lake and serpentine areas throughout the watershed. Concerns over sedimentation center around the storage capacity of the lake, possible loss of that capacity, and subsequent effects on downstream uses. Watershed protection practices upstream from Lake Pillsbury receive special emphasis in recognition of turbidity and sedimentation concerns.

A gravel-surfaced airstrip is located on National Forest land at the north end of the lake and receives light general aviation use by recreation residence owners, resort customers, and campers. However, the Forest Service has not recently used the airstrip. In addition, helicopters provide all medical evacuations, and the airstrip is no longer used by air ambulances.

Most of the recent timber harvesting in this area has been designed to accomplish recreation management objectives. No livestock grazing is permitted within the area.

The area has several parcels of private land used for summer homes. Soda Creek Station is the primary Forest Service work center for recreation and fire management in this and surrounding management areas.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis	767
Chaparral Management	1,932
Minimal Management	1,640
Recreation Area	650
Timber Modified	228

Management Direction

Manage all bald eagle nest sites as recommended in the Pacific Bald Eagle Recovery Plan and the Lake Pillsbury Bald Eagle Habitat Management Plan

Analyze and coordinate the development, management, and use of the Lake Pillsbury Basin.

Emphasize providing quality water-oriented recreation opportunities in a manner consistent with the protection of bald eagles. Expand opportunities in response to anticipated demand. Coordinate all expansion with PG&E and FERC.

Where applicable to National Forest lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

MANAGEMENT AREA #11

Emphasize stabilizing serpentine areas along the lake shoreline as well as the banks of the Eel River and the Rice Fork of the Eel River at their inlets to the lake to help reduce turbidity in the lake

Reduce conflicts between OHV users and other recreationists through trail designations, administrative controls, and revision of the Forest OHV Plan

Concentrate efforts to inform users about resource protection, fire prevention, and campground regulations. Place priority on law enforcement efforts in this area.

Analyze opportunities for the development of watchable wildlife areas and wildlife habitat interpretation for the public

Provide surfaced road access from Van Arsdale to Lake Pillsbury.

Evaluate the potential effects of use and expansion of the airstrip on Bald Eagles. If found compatible, locate a qualified permittee to operate the airstrip within five years or close it to further use.

Maintain the permit for a private resort on the lake for boat rentals, fuel, etc. Continue to permit the summer home tract

Do not issue a grazing permit in this area

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat
Bald Eagle	Nesting and foraging habitat
Tule Elk	Fall/Winter habitat
Deer	Portions of Gravelly Valley key winter range and Potato Hill key summer range

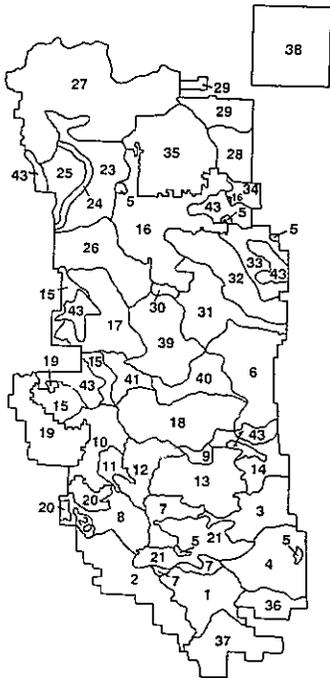
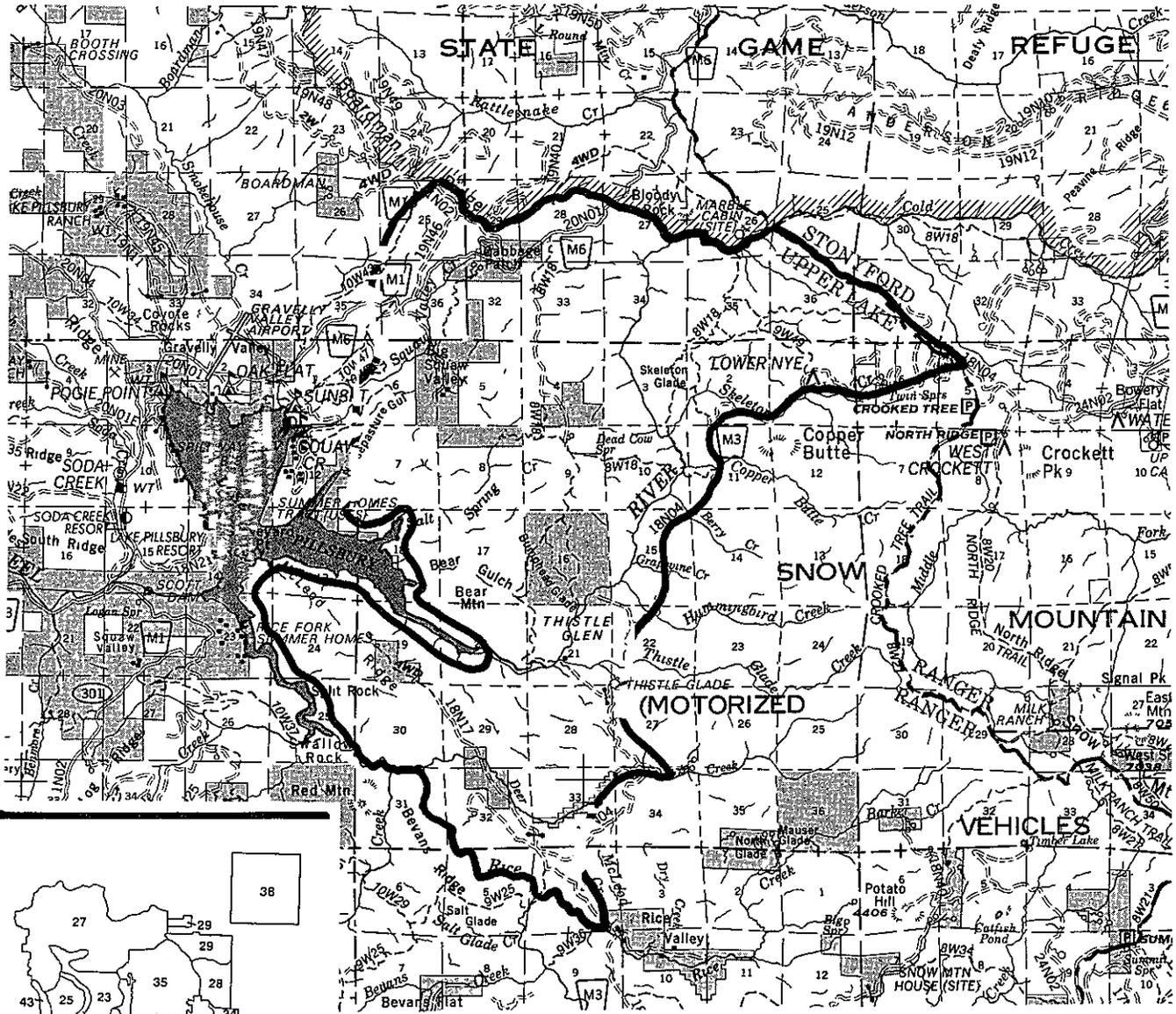
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	21
Chaparral	154
Mixed Conifer	47

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA # 12

Skeleton Glade



MANAGEMENT AREA #12

SKELETON GLADE

Total Acres 20,526
NF Acres 18,322

The Skeleton Glade Management Area is located between Lake Pillsbury and the Snow Mountain Wilderness. The northern boundary follows Boardman Ridge to Bloody Rock, and the southern boundary follows the Rice Fork of the Eel River east to Rice Valley. The management area lies entirely within Lake County.

The Skeleton Glade Management Area also lies entirely within the Lake Pillsbury watershed and primarily within the Eel River drainage. The topography is generally rolling to steep, with the Eel River bisecting the area and forming its major topographic feature. Elevations range from below 1,900 feet at the Eel River to over 5,000 feet near Crockett Peak. Soils in the area are moderately erodible but are unstable along most drainages. Vegetation in the area is highly variable including open glades mixed with hardwood stands, brush, and knobcone pine. Some mixed conifer stands can be found, mostly on north facing slopes. The area contains 995 acres of suitable timberland.

Bald eagle have been observed foraging in this area. The meadows and glades in the area provide habitat to support wild turkey. Several areas have been converted from chaparral and knobcone pine to grass in the vicinity of Bloody Rock and McLeod Ridge to improve forage for big game. Additional habitat improvement work in the area includes legume seeding, prescribed burning, and constructing artificial nest structures for peregrine falcon. A year-long motor vehicle closure is in effect for the Bloody Rock key winter deer range, and grazing has generally been excluded from the area to enhance wildlife habitat values. The Skeleton Glade management area contains habitat for the northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk. The upper main Eel River and its tributaries contain good to excellent rainbow trout populations. The access is difficult and the fishing pressure is generally very light. Rainbow trout from Lake Pillsbury enter the area to spawn, however, non-native Ptychocheilus grandis have entered the area and pose a threat to the native fishery.

The sensitive plant species Astragalus clevelandii exists within this area, and habitat conditions are favorable for occurrence of Hesperolinon drymaroides. The special interest species, Helianthus exilis and Hesperolinon adenophyllum also grow here.

Fire occurrence is low in this area.

No rights-of-way exist into the McCloud Ridge and Big Squaw Valley-Bumphead Glade areas, however there is no anticipated need for public access to these areas. Recreational use is light and mostly near the boundaries of this area. The primary recreational uses are hunting, fishing, and hiking. Lower Nye Campground (a low standard, developed site) serves the eastern portion of the area.

Past logging activity has been intermittent and light due to low volumes and poor economic feasibility. Grazing is permitted in the northeast portion of the management area.

MANAGEMENT AREA #12

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wildlife Emphasis	1,445
Chaparral Management	6,032
Minimal Management	9,750
Late Successional Reserve *	100
Timber Modified	995

• Estimated Unmapped LSR

Management Direction

Where applicable to National Forest lands, implement watershed improvements identified by the Lake Pillsbury Basin Sediment Task Force to control sediment inflow to Lake Pillsbury. Also undertake improvements identified in the Forest Watershed Improvement Needs (WIN) inventory.

Continue the Bloody Rock key deer range motor vehicle closure. Emphasize deer habitat management and enhancement within key deer range.

Give low priority to improving access.

Key Wildlife Habitat

<u>Species</u>	<u>Description</u>
Bald Eagle	Foraging habitat
Northern Spotted Owl	Dispersal habitat
Goshawk	Dispersal habitat
Marten/Fisher	Dispersal habitat
Peregrine Falcon	Potential nest sites
Deer	Portions of Potato Hill and Bloody Rock/ Skeleton Glade key winter ranges

MANAGEMENT AREA #12

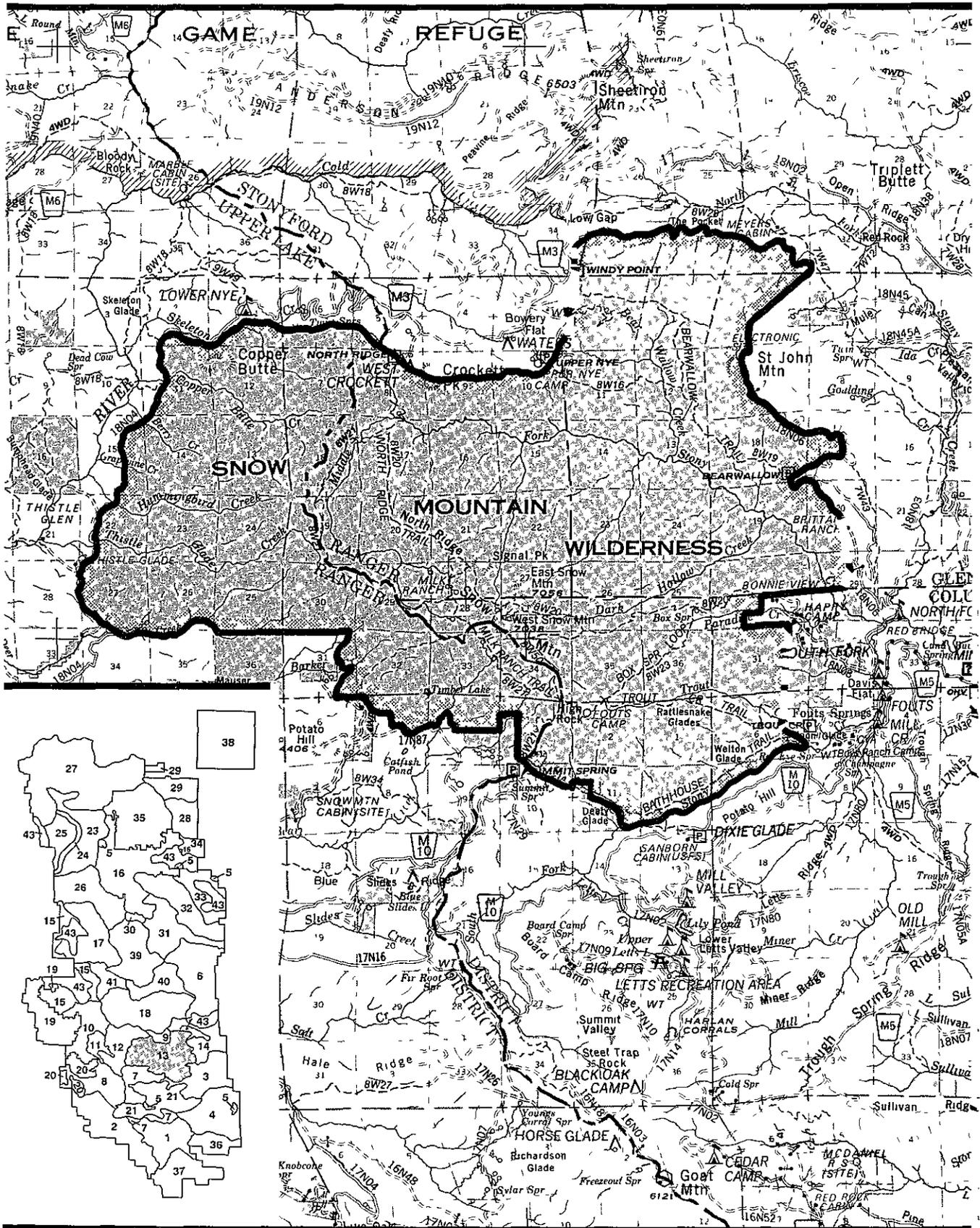
Diversity Seral Stage Goals*

<u>Vegetation Type</u>	<u>Minimum Acreage Goals</u>
Hardwood	80
Chaparral	482
Mixed Conifer	196

* Minimum acreage for each seral stage within type.

MANAGEMENT AREA # 13

Snow Mountain Wilderness



MANAGEMENT AREA #13

SNOW MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS

Total Acres 37,679
NF Acres 37,160

Snow Mountain was designated a Wilderness in 1984. Elevations range from 1,800 feet in the gorge of the Middle Fork of Stony Creek to 7,056 feet on the Summit of Snow Mountain East. The area lies within Colusa, Lake, and Glenn counties

The focal point of the area is the top of Snow Mountain. The mountain is relatively flat topped with the higher elevations exhibiting the effect of a harsh climate and years of wind and water erosion. The area contains forested stands interspersed with natural openings and barren areas

Middle elevations are steep and covered with oak and brush, with knobcone and gray pine stands interspersed on the south and west and stands of mixed conifer on the northeast. The area once contained meadows, but heavy grazing in the early 1900s denuded them. Some areas in the mid and lower elevations, such as the Middle Fork of Stony Creek and the east side of St. John Mountain are characterized by precipitous rocky bluffs. Part of the area drains westward into the Rice Fork of the Eel River and thence into Pillsbury Lake, and part of the area drains eastward into Stony Gorge Reservoir and eventually the Sacramento River. Water for recreationists is scarce at the higher elevations. All water rights are adjudicated in this area, however, water rights are sufficient for current and anticipated needs. Precipitation varies from a low of 25" of rainfall along the east boundary to a high of 60" on the upper slopes, with most precipitation at higher elevations in the form of snow. Generally the soils are moderately erodible with a moderate risk of landslides. Landslide risk is higher along the steep canyons and on the lower third of many slopes.

The Snow Mountain Wilderness contains habitat for the northern spotted owl, marten, fisher, and goshawk. This area provides an important connection between the southern-most Late Successional Reserve and the rest of the reserve system. The Middle Fork of Stony Creek is the principal rainbow trout stream in the Wilderness, and special wild trout regulations aimed at retaining a high quality fishery are in effect for certain parts of the creek. Several other creeks also contain healthy, self-sustaining populations of rainbow trout. The access is difficult and the fishing pressure is generally very light.

Four sensitive plants are known to occur within this area: Epilobium nivium, Eriogonum nervulosum, Eriastrum brandegeae, and Raillardella scabrida. Also, a special interest species which exists in this area is Eriogonum strictum var. greenei. Conditions are also favorable for Lewisia stebbinsii and Lupinus antoninus are likely to be present in this area. An ancient stand of curl leaf mountain-mahogany, Cercocarpus ledifolius, is one further feature of botanical interest. Over 500 taxa of vascular plants have been documented from Snow Mountain, the southernmost peak of the North Coast Ranges that is higher than 6,200 in feet elevation. More than a quarter of these species are growing at the extreme margin of their geographical range, which underscores the botanical importance of this area. Snow Mountain is also the type location for two of the Forest's endemic sensitive plant species Eriogonum nervulosum and Raillardella scabrida.

Fire occurrence is generally low in this area. However, in 1987, the Fouts Fire burned approximately 6,956 acres within the Wilderness.

The crest area, with its barren stretches and extensive vistas, is attractive to visitors. Views on clear days include the Sacramento Valley, Clear Lake, the coast ranges, and the Sierras.

MANAGEMENT AREA #13

Eight trailheads access this management area, and most of the recreational use is by backcountry hikers, horsemen, and hunters. People also come here for fishing, scientific study, cross-country skiing, and snow shoeing. Group size is limited to 25 persons.

One grazing allotment is located within the area. The areas frequently used by cattle also include those most heavily used by recreationists, and most of these areas are on private lands. Riparian areas and meadows are heavily grazed.

Several private land parcels exist within the Wilderness boundary.

MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTION ALLOCATION

<u>Management Prescription</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Wilderness	37,160

Management Direction

Follow management direction provided in the Wilderness Management Prescription.

Should Congress act favorably on the recommendation to include the Middle Fork of Stony Creek in the National Wild and Scenic River System, amend the current management plan for this Wilderness to reflect that designation.

Prepare a Wilderness Implementation Schedule (WIS) stating specific actions prioritized pending budget allocations. Update the WIS annually or as needed.

Analyze trail access to existing water sources

MANAGEMENT AREA #13

Key Wildlife Habitat

Species

Northern Spotted Owl
Goshawk
Marten/Fisher
Peregrine Falcon
Deer

Description

Dispersal habitat
Dispersal habitat
Dispersal habitat
Potential nest sites
Portions of Britton Ranch and Bloody
Rock/Skeleton Glade key winter ranges
Portions of Snow Mountain, Sheetiron,
and St John Mountain key summer ranges